

proposed policy because of the comments received.

Background

The Society of Automotive Engineers has issued an Aerospace Recommended Practice (ARP) that addresses video system abuse load testing. This document, ARP 5475, represents the industry recommendation for making an assessment of the injury potential for a video system, and is an acceptable means of addressing this feature. With the issuance of this ARP, the FAA considers that qualification of the seat itself using that document is sufficient to show compliance with the relevant Federal Aviation Regulations with respect to in-arm video monitors. That is, the in-arm video may be treated the same way as are other seat features. Based on successful experience with design features qualified in accordance with industry standards, we believe that this will simplify the certification process with no adverse effect on safety.

Issued in Renton, Washington, on June 19, 2001.

Ali Bahrami,

Acting Manager, Transport Airplane Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Highway Administration

Environmental Impact Statement; Oakland and Genesee Counties, MI

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The FHWA is issuing this notice to advise the public that an environmental impact statement (EIS) will be prepared for a proposed highway project in Oakland and Genesee counties, Michigan. A Section 4(f) Statement will be prepared in coordination with the EIS.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

James A. Kirschensteiner, Engineer, Environmental Programs & Field Operations, Federal Highway Administration, 315 West Allegan St., Room 207, Lansing, Michigan 48933, Telephone (517) 702-1835, Fax: 377-1804; email: james.kirschensteiner@fhwa.dot.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FHWA, in cooperation with the Michigan Department of Transportation, will prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) on a proposal to improve M-15 in Oakland and Genesee

counties, Michigan. The proposed improvement will involve the reconstruction of existing M-15 between I-75 and I-69, a distance of approximately 20 miles. Due to the presence of cultural resources, a Section 4(f) Statement will be developed in conjunction with the EIS.

Improvements to the corridor are considered necessary to provide for projected traffic demand. Alternatives under consideration include: (1) Taking no action, (2) Low-Cost Improvements/Transportation Systems Management, (3) New Alignments, and (4) M-15 Reconstruction. Incorporated into and studied with the various build alternatives will be design variation of typical sections and alignment.

Letters describing the proposed action and soliciting comments have been sent to appropriate federal, state, and local agencies, and to private organizations and citizens who have previously expressed or are known to have an interest in this proposal. A series of public meetings have been held: June 7 and 8, 2000, August 24, 2000, October 25, 2000, November 15, 2000, January 24, 2001, and April 3 and 4, 2001. A public hearing will be held after appropriate public notice is given of the time and place of the hearing. The draft EIS will be available for public and agency review and comment prior to the public hearing. Formal scoping meetings were held September 20, 2000, in Lansing for agency officials and in the corridor for local stakeholders.

To ensure that the full range of issues related to this proposed action are addressed and all significant issues identified, comments, and suggestions are invited from all interested parties. Comments or questions concerning this proposed action and the EIS should be directed to the FHWA at the address provided above.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Number 20.205, Highway Planning and Construction. The regulations implementing Executive Order 12372 regarding intergovernmental consultation of Federal programs and activities apply to this program)

Issued on: June 14, 2001.

James J. Steele,

Division Administrator, Lansing, Michigan.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

[Docket No. NHTSA-2001-9595]

Motorcycle Safety Improvement Plan

AGENCY: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), DOT.

ACTION: Request for comments.

SUMMARY: This document announces the availability of a draft planning document that describes the agency's current and planned activities to reduce the deaths and injuries associated with motorcycle crashes. Since reaching an historic low in the number of motorcyclist fatalities in 1997 (2,116), motorcyclist fatalities have increased 27 percent to 2,680 in 2000. This continued a rising trend in motorcycle deaths that is in stark contrast to the general decline witnessed in previous years. Consequently, NHTSA concluded that a renewed national effort is needed at all levels—federal, state, and community—in order to once again begin to reduce the levels of motorcycle crashes, fatalities, and injuries in the U.S. New, effective programs would therefore need to be undertaken to achieve these outcomes:

- Improved rider and passenger safety;
- Safer motorcycles;
- Improved motorcycle crash data collection and analysis; and
- A safer riding environment.

NHTSA intends to continue to serve as a leader and major partner in motorcycle safety. Therefore, this plan has been developed to respond to and support the framework of National Agenda for Motorcycle Safety (DOT-HS 809 156, November 2000). The plan reflects a coordinated agency-wide planning effort that also involved our sister agency, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), to address roadway and related environment safety issues related to improved safety for motorcyclists on the nation's roadways. For each of the defined actions, the plan provides background information, describes current agency activities, and presents proposed activities to achieve the goal of improving motorcycle safety. NHTSA seeks public review and comment on this draft plan. Comments received will be evaluated and incorporated, as appropriate, into the planned agency activities.

DATES: Comments must be received no later than August 9, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons may obtain a copy of the draft plan by